

A  
REVIEW OF THE REIGNS  
OF  
GEORGE I. & II.

DEDICATED, BY PERMISSION,  
TO THE  
COUNTESS OF MARCHMONT.

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BY A LADY.

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A

REVIEW OF THE REIGNS

OF

GEORGE I. & II.

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**L**ORD CARTERET, being thus disappointed in his extensive projects, could no longer maintain his ground against the efforts of those whom he despised; the people, who had hitherto only experienced an encrease of taxes, from what was called the drunken administration, easily yielded to the insinuations of his enemies, and the

sovereign was obliged to sacrifice the only man he confided in, to private jealousies.

A TREATY had been for some time negociated between the old part of the ministry, and the members of the opposition; but it was not concluded before the end of the year 1744. It was called the coalition treaty.

THE common-wealth of the united provinces had hitherto avoided to act as principals in the present dispute. They had shewn an equal reluctance to abandon the Queen of Hungary, and to commence hostilities against the French King. Faith-  
ful

ful to their great De Wit's maxims, they had enjoyed peace amidst the tumults of war, and considered the commotions of their neighbours, as so many opportunities for them to enlarge their trade, and encrease their wealth. They seemed little inclined to drop the substance, in order to catch the shadow; this irresolute conduct had exposed them to some inconveniencies: roused to action by the representations of their own, as well as the English patriots, and awed into submission, by the eloquence and menaces of French agents, they were forced to take some ambiguous steps, which were unsatisfactory to one of the parties, and unpleasing to the other. They

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granted



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granted some subsidies to the late emperor's daughter, but those were given slowly, and with a sparing hand. They encreased the number of their troops, but employed them chiefly to supply the deficiencies of the Austrians, in their own barrier towns; and those of their corps which had been taken into the field the year before, were cautiously kept from coming to action. The invasion of the low countries by the French, struck terror into the different orders of the state. The Dutch mob, not unlike other mobs, and perhaps less manageable, when excited by wild enthusiasts, and artful demagogues, exclaimed that their rulers were lulled by French influence,



influence ; perhaps by French gold. The exhausted state of the public treasury ; the ruinous condition of the fortifications ; the emptiness of the magazines ; the neglect of military discipline ; the inexperience of the officers ; and the weakness of the administration, had reduced the republic to the state in which it was in the 1672, when Lewis the fourteenth, subdued four of the provinces : and, as the cause was the same, to wit, the want of a chief ; similar consequences were justly apprehended, and the same remedy was desired, and pointed out. The stadtholder's party rejected all offers, even of advantageous pacification, which would have prevented the  
Prince

Prince of Orange from enjoying the fruits of that office, but the circumstance which more effectually obstructed the wished for reconciliation, was the death of the Emperor, Charles the seventh; grief and disappointment put an end to his life. This event, together with the quadruple alliance, concluded at the same time, and the attack made upon the Hanoverian territories, by Marechal Belleisle, opened a new field of enterprise to the sanguine projectors of both nations. The wild schemes, of humbling both France and Prussia, were re-assumed with rather better prospect of success; especially after the young Duke of Bavaria's treaty with the Queen

Queen of Hungary, had secured to her a body of auxiliary forces, a majority of votes in the electoral college, and the restoration of the imperial dignity to her family, by the election of her husband. The states of Holland still refused to declare war, yet, they agreed to carry it on. They promised, upon paper, to maintain 50,000 men in the field, besides 10,000 in their garrison towns. The mercantile spirit manifested itself in settling, for the proportion of the expences, instead of the two fifths, one third of the old subsidies, and only one fourth of the new ones; was accepted. As the great superiority of the French troops over those, with which the Duke



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Duke of Cumberland entered the field, was sufficiently known, a defensive campaign might have been most eligible, at least till a fresh supply of auxiliary forces could be procured; but this by no means suited with the disposition of the young general. The plan which the King and his ministers had settled at St James's, and, which the English ambassador was instructed to communicate to the respective commanders at the Hague, was, to wait till the French were engaged in a siege, and then to attack their divided army.

Life of      **THIS** project might  
Lord Che- have succeeded, had the  
terfield. inequality been less, or  
the

the secret better kept: but the enemy was apprised of the design, and had, with great skill, prepared to render it ineffectual. Their lines were made almost inaccessible, by the art of their engineers; and impregnable, as well as destructive, by their artillery: such, notwithstanding, was the intrepid behaviour, both of the national and electoral troops; such was the gallantry of the royal chief; That the issue was like to have been as glorious to the projectors, as it proved fatal to the confederates. Their formidable column, intrepid, and unshaken, had driven off the whole force of the enemy, and there remained only a small body of reserve to encounter, much inferior to a  
body

body of eight thousand Hanoverians, which had unaccountably been dismissed. But this reserve, consisted chiefly of Irish regiments, was sufficient to repel the last efforts of men, led for the third time to destruction: thinned by the enemy's cannon; wearied out with the slaughter they had made, and retiring with the consolation, if it might be called one, that they had yielded the palm to their own countrymen.

HAD the loss of the battle of Fountenoy, prevailed on the King and his ministers, to consent to a peace; the nation perhaps would have profited by the disappointment. France especially, after the loss of  
Cape



Cape Breton, was sufficiently disposed to balance accounts: it was not her interest that the King of Prussia should angrandize himself, even at the expence of the house of Austria, to maintain an equilibrium between these two powers, he was ready to favour the election of the grand Duke of Tuscany to the imperial dignity. The other points in dispute might easily have been settled, and the contending powers would all have been benefited by a cessation of hostilities. The wealth, the strength, the honour of the nation would no longer have been sacrificed to foreign interest, the rebellion would not have ensued, or at least would not have reme

so long uncrushed, and one useful lesson would have saved the repeated mortifications of succeeding campaigns.

THE situation of domestic affairs, was such, as to require the most prudent management, as well as vigorous exertion of power, in the several parts of the British empire. England, which was supposed to be out of danger, was suddenly struck with a cloud, that seemed to be at first no bigger than a man's hand. The rebellion that broke out about the beginning of July, 1745, too much despised in the beginning, soon became formidable from the efforts made to crush it; which

which proved ineffectual for many months.

THE landing of a young and daring adventurer, in a French vessel of about sixteen or eighteen guns, appeared on the west coast of Scotland, and cruised for some days off the island of Bara and Uest, and the coast of Lochaber, then landed between the islands of Mull and Sky, with about seven gentlemen: who went immediately to the house of Mr Cameron of Lochiell, who reasoned a long time with the young pretender, on the madness of such an attempt, on a well settled government; but, at last, seeing his advice had no effect, he said,



“ His family had long been a sacrifice to the family of Stuart, and  
“ all that he or the Camerons could  
“ do, should be done to support his  
“ cause ; but he might depend upon  
“ it, that many on whose assurances  
“ he then trusted, would fail him in  
“ the day of trial.” The pretender  
immediately set up his standard, and  
threw out a number of manifestos,  
which brought together about two  
hundred of the infatuated clans, who  
increased as they marched on to  
Perth, where they were joined by the  
Duke, and many more Highlanders,  
M'Donald's of Clanronald, of Kerpoch,  
Glengary, Kinlochmoidart,  
and Stuarts of Appin. Edinburgh  
was no ways fortified, or in any  
state,

state, to make resistance : but the castle kept firing at the Highlanders, yet doing as little harm to the inhabitants as possible. Sir John Cope encamped his army at Preston, near Seaton ; he was attacked by the rebel army, early in the morning, of the 21st of September, they were soon put into confusion : the dragoons fled, and the foot were cut in pieces, many brave officers were killed ; Colonel Gardiner at his own park gate : the Earls of Home and Loudon then tried to stop and bring them to order, but in vain : they, however, put them into some order, and carried about 450 dragoons to Berwick. The rebels marched back to Edinburgh, and some days after, took the

western road to Carlisle, which they took while unaccountably unprovided, they pursued their road to London, the western road being left open for them; they did not fear to be overtaken by Marshall Wade, who kept the eastern road, while he slowly crossed, to measure the tract they ran over; they nearly gave the slip to the more alert duke of Cumberland. An universal alarm was now spread, and instead of asking whether the ministry had any design to extinguish the rebellion, it was asked whether it was in their power? Every day gave rise to false reports, from the secret well wishers to the cause, and from the ministerial quarter. Public credit was affected, no flow 8 1 jobbers:



jobbers were encouraged to advance money at extravagant rates, and great men to raise inactive regiments at their own expence. The attachment of the nation to the reigning family, under whom alone their liberties and religion could be preserved, was not more conspicuous, than their anxiety in being at once deprived of these blessings: an hundred thousand men in arms, dreaded the approach of eight thousand banditti, ill cloathed, ill armed, and ill fed. This crisis did not last long; the rebels stopped at Derby, and as nothing had kept up their spirits, but the celerity of their march; they no sooner stopped, but their courage failed them.

SHEPHERD

FRESH

FRESH divisions broke out among the chiefs, the motely crew could no longer be kept together at such distance from home, and they agreed in nothing but turning back. Their retreat was as expeditious as their progress had been; they still had the good fortune to outrun the royal army, and next year, that of surprising, and putting to rout an unguarded general; but this slight advantage accelerated their ruin. The Duke of Cumberland pursued them into the heart of the country, they were again forced to fly before him, and being pushed into the northern extremity of the island, were in sight of their own mountains, completely defeated by him, at Culloden.

THERE

THERE was reason to apprehend still greater danger in Ireland; the state of government there was more unsettled; civilization less advanced; men deprived of their property, or rendered uneasy in the possession of it, were naturely inclined to change.

As it was obyiously the interest of the pretender to attempt his fortune in that island, which had so long supported the King he claimed his descent from; so it was natural that he should make a last effort in the third kingdom, after having been disappointment in the two former. The number of his friends there were supposed to be much more considerable. A constant intercourse had subsisted between



tween the descendants of the court of St Germain and the Irish, who, from their connections and prejudices, were inclined to the same side ; and the French were much more ready to assist them. But the pretender was for several months confined in the isle of the Hebrides, without the means to escape : he concealed himself for some time in the isle of Sky : it is scarcely possible to imagine how, or in what manner he subsisted ; without a bed, without cloaths, and at the hazard of his life ; no person could help him but at the danger of his own \*.

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\* Simon Frazer, Lord Lovat the most extraordinary person that suffered for this rebellion.

YET these poor people, who had not thirty shillings in the world, not only

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bellion. This nobleman, in 1692, was a captain in Tullibardine's regiment; and in 1695, he, with the assistance of his clan, violently forced the Dowager Lady Lovat to marry him, for which he was tried, and condemned; but, being afterwards pardoned by King William, he fled to France, and turning Papist, accepted a commission under the late King James. He was confined for some years in the Basile, for acting a double part between the crowns of England and France: and at length obtained his liberty, by taking the order of Priesthood. He officiated as a Jesuit priest at St Omers, till the rebellion in 1715, when coming over to England, he espoused the cause of government, and assisted in recovering Inverness from the rebels; for which he got the title of Lovat, and obtained a company of Highlanders.

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only concealed, but assisted him, for whose head they were offered thirty thousand

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In this rebellion, however, he again fluctuated in his conduct; and while he endeavoured to preserve appearances himself, he sent his son, with the greater part of his clan, to join the pretender, as appeared by expostulation sent to him from the Lord President Forbes. In answer to this letter, he not only endeavoured to exculpate himself, but was base enough to reproach his son in the most severe terms: and in a letter to the Duke of Cumberland, used the most hypocritical flattery in vindication of his innocence.

He was apprehended by Lord Loudan, from whom he made his escape; but was at last taken, concealed in a hollow tree, while he was preparing to go abroad. He was tried by the House of Peers, before whom he preserved a jocular behaviour; and his defence was filled with



thousand pounds. He at last made his escape in a French ship ; at

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Paris

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with the most satirical turns. His criminality, however, appearing sufficiently manifest, he was found guilty, and received sentence of death.

When the warrant for his execution was notified to him, he appeared undaunted and indifferent as to his fate ; and though he was urged by his friends to throw himself at his Majesty's feet, and petition for mercy ; he absolutely refused it, saying, " He was so unfirm and old, that his life was not worth asking."

Through the whole of his conduct, after conviction, he appeared undaunted, and preserved his jocular, satirical temper to the last moment of his life. He received the notice of his death-warrant without the least alteration  
in

Paris he soon felt the difference between Highland fidelity and French faith.

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in his countenance; thanked the gentleman who brought it, for the favours he had done him, and drank a glass of wine to his health; after which he sat down, and conversed cheerfully with him for a considerable time.

The next morning, being informed that it was reported an engine was to be made for his execution, like that called the Maiden, formerly used for beheading state criminals in Scotland; he commended the contrivance, "for," said he, "as my neck is very short, the executioner will be puzzled to find it out with his ax; and, if such a machine be made, I suppose it will get the name of Lovat's Maiden."

On the Monday preceding his execution,  
the

faith. The Peace was no sooner settled at Aix-la-chapelle, than he was

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the Major of the tower went to see him, and asked how he did. "Do," says he, "why, I am doing very well; for I am fitting myself for a place where hardly any Majors go, and very few Lieutenant Generals."

On the Wednesday morning, his Lordship walked about until two o'clock, and prayed most devoutly for some time; after which, he went to rest again, and slept till between six and seven o'clock, when he called for the warder to dress as usual. After eating a hearty dinner, he sent order to get some veal roasted, that it might be ready to mince for his breakfast. He sat reading in his chair without spectacles, for, notwithstanding his great age, he never used any. At ten o'clock the block was fixed on the scaffold, and his coffin brought, which



commanded to leave the dominions of France; and on his refusal, was

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which was covered with black cloth, adorned with coronets, &c. and on the lid was this inscription, *Simondominas Frazer de Lovat, decollat*, April 9. 1747, ætat. Suæ. 80.

When he was ascending the steps to the scaffold, he looked round, and observing such a prodigious crowd of people on the hill, he said, "he wondered there should be such a bustle about taking off an old grey head." Observing one of his friends look very much dejected, he clapped him on the shoulder, saying, "Cheer up thy heart, man, I am not afraid; why shouldst thou?" He declared himself a Roman Catholic, and desired that a Roman Priest might have permission to come to him. Lord Lovat's son was afterwards released from confinement, and his circumstances being considered, he was provided for in the army.

was forced into a chaise, and carried into Lorrain, accompanied by the French guards; nor would he have been allowed to remain there, but for the philanthropy of the mild Stanislaus, the unfortunate King of Poland. Charles behaved in Lorrain, more like a madman than a reasonable being. He had the folly to be seen in London a few years after his attempt on the throne of Britain. When King George was informed by the Secretary of state, he answered, “What would you  
“ have me to do with the young  
“ fool? if I were to have him tried,  
“ his misfortunes would encrease  
“ the enthusiasm of his followers.  
“ I know he is in London: when

"he has tired himself, he will go away." As the King predicted it came to pass, and it was not much known that he had been in Britain.

THE affairs of the continent were far from being amended by the diversion in Scotland; and the new ministry, though masters of a superior interest in parliament, by no means enjoyed the confidence of their sovereign. So little was he indeed satisfied with their management, that he attempted to recall the dismissed minister, now become Earl of Grenville, of whose spirit and abilities in continental affairs, he entertained a much higher opinion, than



than of those of his rivals. The Earl spoke the Kings own language, and had done more for the electorate than even his predecessor Walpole: but those who had turned him out, were still against him, and by threatening to resign altogether, obliged their master to part with his minister, who kept the seals only three days.

THE important services which Lord Chesterfield had performed, both in Holland and Ireland, had in a great measure removed his Majesty's prejudices against him. The fear of another made him consent to substitute the only man that could counterbalance a more unpopular, but

but more dangerous rival. Lord Harrington, secretary of state for the northern department, as the Duke of Newcastle was for the southern, convinced of the tendency of a land war, under the present circumstances, refused to serve any longer with a colleague who had veered from peace to war: it may be doubted, whither he wished that his resignation should be accepted; but the King took him at his word, and pressed Lord Chesterfield to accept of the seals in a manner, which made the refusal impossible. Lord Harrington was made Lord Lieutenant of Ireland. The state of the united provinces was critical, their barrier was pulled down, their frontier

ties laid open, their enemy preparing to over-run their country, their rulers divided, and their people more and more dissatisfied with them. A congress for a peace had been assembled at Breda; but, from the difficulties which arose from the plenipotentiaries, it was apparent that an accommodation was at that time by no means desired by the British and Imperial courts: vigorous measures might have been expected from those who shewed so little inclination to peace; vigour, however, was not to be expected from them. The Queen of Hungary, for want of an early remittance of supplies, could not send the troops stipulated for in time: the  
Bavarians



Bavarians too late engaged, arrived still later; and Prince Charles of Lorraine, the commander in chief, was exposed at Raucoux, to the attack of an enemy, who, by the superiority of numbers, knew how to secure victory.

THE plan of the next campaign had been settled: the expectations that were entertained of its success, were alledged as reasons not to listen to the terms of peace, repeatedly offered by France. The aristocratic party in Holland, sent over Baron Boetzelar, to enforce these proposals; but he could not prevail over the enthusiastic spirit of the times. His royal highness, the  
Duke

Duke of Cumberland, was to take the field early, with an army of one hundred thousand men, superior, by twenty thousand, to the utmost force the French could collect. The new secretary of State, was, much against his will, hurried away by the torrent, into the very measures which he had opposed. The national forces first took the field.

THEY were made to quit their winter quarters, before the end of March, 1747, and were encamped by the middle of April: the spring advanced, yet the year was not so forward as the expectations raised at home, might have suggested of their exploits: unhappily the magazines had  
been

been so much neglected, that instead of snatching some considerable advantage, the troops were forced to rest upon their arms for six weeks together, making war against the elements. This bravado, as well as the vain attempt on Antwerp, were treated with a mortifying contempt, by Marshal Saxe, who commanded the French. He, calm, and unmoved in his cantonment, said, "I will convince them, that the duty of a General, is to provide for his troops, when my antagonist has sufficiently weakened his army." He strictly kept his word; for while his enemies were hovering about in marches and countermarches, detachments from his army, under Lowendale and Contades



tades, made irruptions into Dutch Flanders, took almost without resistance, the most important fortrefs thereof, and subdued the whole province, in less than a month. This step, it must be allowed, was more a proof of superior generalship, than of wise politics. Instead of forcing the Dutch to conclude a separate peace, and throw themselves into the hands of France, the people were roused into indignation and fury. The magistrates of the towns, whom they accused of treachery, were discarded. A stadtholder was tumultuously forced on the states, and the revolution, in favour of the Prince of Orange, was the work only of a few days.

THIS event changed the face of affairs, and threw a sudden damp on the projects of the enemy, if a rash engagement had been avoided, agreeable to the wishes of the new stadtholder, or, if the action of Laufelt had proved fortunate, if a sensible use had been made of that defeat, this campaign would have been the last. The stadtholder's cabinet was divided; the moderate party wished that this establishment might be the work of time and tranquility: the more zealous were desirous, to avail themselves of the present ferment; this party prevailed, to spirit up our ministers, and impede the opening of the congress, Count Bentinck and his brother were

were deputed to London. The state of the country did not alarm them; they were sanguine in their hopes, and lavish in their offers; neither did the siege of Bergen-opzoom, nor the unaccountable taking of it, alter their sentiments. It seemed doubtful, whether the loss of that important fortress was not much, and purposely over-rated by the anti-republican party, as it furnished a pretence for settling the stadtholdership in the female line of the Orange family: for taking from the magistrates the disposal of city employments, and for annexing to the state the revenue of the posts which hitherto had been in private hands, were among others, the rea-



sons which prudent people had to be alarmed at the present situation of the Dutch. The low state of their finances, was not the least; Holland alone was supposed to be indebted about forty millions sterling, a prodigious sum for such a small country. The decay of commerce and manufactures, together with the discouragement of the inhabitants, the high taxes, and mode of levying them, afforded but an indifferent prospect for raising such sums as might be required for the defence of the state. The extraordinary mode of taxation, they made use of, was called a free gift: but rather might be termed a contribution laid on the inhabitants, in proportion to their fortunes.

fortunes. Those who possessed two hundred pounds, or upwards, were rated at two per cent. of their estate, one per cent. was expected of those who were worth one hundred pounds, and the poorer sort were left at liberty to give what they pleased, provided they gave something. This mode of taxation first took place in Holland, but was afterwards adopted by the other provinces, and even extended to the Dutch colonies in the East and West Indies. The money, thus collected, was intended in part to pay the troops that were to be employed. A most extraordinary army was to be formed, consisting of a hundred and thirty two thousand men, sixty-

six thousand Austrians in British pay, and as many at the expence of the Dutch : experience, however, had so well convinced the people of the fallacy of the accounts, for the preceding years, that they by no means trusted to this.

THE only measure that was to be approved of, was the negotiation with Russia : but this measure, to make it have its effect, should have been concluded long before the end of the year. The best part of which, on the contrary, was consumed in altercations with the Dutch, about their proportion of the charge ; and when by the advice of the Prince  
of



of Orange, they had consented to the terms proposed in England, and appeared very pressing to have the treaty concluded, the British cabinet were still undetermined and did not conclude till the middle of November. They began a tedious march, of two thousand leagues, in the winter, and, with the utmost diligence, could not possibly have arrived till the campaign was over. This negociation, however, greatly alarmed the French; their defeat at sea; the destruction of their naval strength; the decay of their manufactures and commerce; the distress and danger of their colonies; the misery which began to rage in the internal parts of the kingdom, induced

duced them to wish for a termination of the war, which, however glorious, was much more detrimental to them than to their enemies. The terms were short: nothing for France, and very little for their allies.

A SEPARATE negociation with Spain, had, in truth been carried on for some time, but the want of design, expedition, and perseverance made it come to nothing. No time could be more favourable than the present. The King of Spain was dead, the Queen had lost her influence, and the new Monarch, who was not her son, seemed inclined to give peace to his country. The  
Marquis

Marquis de Tuberega, a Spanish nobleman, exiled from his country, though a sort of favourite with the present King, having taken up his residence at London, assumed to himself the conduct of this negociation; he amused the ministers with vain hopes, and was himself amused with insignificant informations from his country. This reciprocal amusement became more serious, when Mr Wall, an Irish gentleman, employed as major general in the Spanish service, came over furnished with proper powers, to open a treaty. He was ordered to confer on that matter with the Marquis, and it was a remarkable circumstance, that as a British subject, he was employed to nego-



negociate the interests of Spain, at the British court, and a native Spaniard was employed to negociate the interest of Britain. Their conferences were fruitless, and those who know the ascendancy which the Sardinian minister had acquired were not surprised that no conditions could be accepted, but with his, and his master's approbation.

THE necessity of making a general peace on the best terms, soon appeared by the unprovided condition in which the states were left. One of the Prince of Orange's ministers, who, last year, had been so sanguine, in representing that the republic was in no danger, now came over on

on purpose to contradict the former reports: he owned that it was impossible the republic could withstand the efforts of their enemies, without extraordinary assistance, and Marshal Saxe made that circumstance still more difficult by his unexpected enterprise on Maestricht. The British plenipotentiaries, who had been at Aix-la-chapelle, with orders to procrastinate, received new instructions, to lose no time, in signing the preliminary articles.

IT was very fortunate, that his most christian majesty still continued in his pacific disposition. The consideration of the distressed state of his kingdom, concurred with his  
love

love of ease to make him weary of war: his ministers accommodated their politics to his wishes; and they did not rise much in their demands, the English ambassador seized the critical instant, and restored peace to Europe. This fortunate event saved one state from destruction, and the other perhaps from bankruptcy: it maintained the stadtholder in his dignity, and secured some ministers from the consequences of their delusion. After the peace was finally settled, and the ministry conferred on the two brothers, the Duke of Newcastle and Mr Pelham, whose first care was to deprive the Highland chieftains of their assumed power, and the hereditary sheriffs were communicated



nicated by the government ; and the power of naming them placed in the hands of the King.

THE unexpected death of the Prince of Wales, which happened in the year 1751, disappointed the hopes of his friends, and put the nation in dread ; as his son was then but a youth, and the King his father an old man, and especially, as a minority was always fatal to England. The parliament made an act, confining the Prince of Wales's minority to last only to his eighteenth year. The merciful providence of God disappointed these fears, by preserving the life of the good old King, till his grandson was of com-

plete age, to govern the kingdom.

THE attention of parliament was next employed in changing the style, it had long been deplored, that Great Britain should almost be the last of all Europe, which persisted in the use of the defective Julian calendar. Neither the scruples which it occasioned among zealous churchmen, concerning the true time of the principal anniversary festivals; nor even its considerable and increasing disagreement from the regular revolutions of the heavenly bodies, a circumstance, on account of the slowness of its progression, perceptible only to astronomers

mers, were perhaps the chief motives that induced the Lords to wish for a change thereof; they were more particularly disposed to encourage it from the confusion which the different beginnings of the year might produce, in settling historical transactions, and the variance there was in the accounts of almost every state. There were great inconveniencies attending such a sudden alteration, and especially in overcoming people's prejudices; these difficulties they found still more considerable, than they imagined: at last a bill very wisely contrived, passed, without any opposition, through both houses of parliament.



THE bill for naturalizing the Jews, next passed; but was obliged to be repealed the next session, on account of the clamour of the mob.

THE preparations for a rupture with the court of France, on account of America, seemed at first not very alarming: it was thought they would not attempt any diversion in Flanders, or if they did, that their force could be sufficiently opposed in that quarter, by the Dutch; or at least, that the Dutch could be so supported, as to prevent their submitting to a neutrality, or accepting any other terms, which the French might wish to impose on them.

STILL

STILL depending on our former alliances, and our resolution not to be parties upon the continent, a war was wished for, if it could be vigorously carried on by sea, as being the best means for destroying the enemies of our navy and commerce. The defection of those who had been thought England's firmest allies; especially the house of Austria: the miscarriage of the fleet before Mahon, and the loss of so considerable a possession as the island of Minorca, in the very beginning of the war, and the apprehensions, of a secret negociation between France and Spain, to deprive us of Gibraltar, were sufficient to give an alarm.

THE balance of Europe seemed entirely destroyed: all the principal powers had thrown their weight into one scale, there remained among the crowned heads, but a single ally for Great Britain, and he had been from his cradle her enemy. Besides, the King of Prussia alone could not be sufficient, in conjunction with us, to withstand the united efforts of France, Spain, Austria, the Empire, Saxony, Russia and Sweden; the Austrian forces were computed at three hundred thousand men; the French at three hundred thousand; the Russians an hundred and fifty thousand; the Saxons and Swedes fifty-five thousand; in all eight hundred and five thousand men.

No



No one could foresee the miraculous exertions of the King of Prussia, or what he was capable of doing in the art of war.

THE negotiations between France and Spain, did not at that time take place: it hurt the pride of Spain much, that Great Britain should retain the important, and almost impregnable fortress of Gibraltar; the principal key of her dominions.

HOWEVER the general and political interests of Spain, may recommend a hearty union with Britain: yet, so long as that place remains in our hands, it can never be sincere.

A

A few years after, Spain chose to enter the lists, but in a short time, found in how unequal a contest she was engaged, with such an enemy.

THE national debt was a very alarming consideration to thinking people. The multitude had always looked on it, as a prodigy big with ruin. The ablest and most enlightened statesmen had fixed the point it then stood at, as the verge of safety, and all beyond, was stigmatised with dark and fatal predictions; the encrease of it to that enormous bulk, at which it had arrived before the end of the war, in the midst of national prosperity, to liquidate which, was, in the conceptions

tions of all men at that time, as great an impossibility, as the astonishing triumphs of our ally, the King of Prussia. An attempt was made to detatch the Empress of Russia from her connections with our enemies; but without effect. However, her successor came into the views of Great Britain, from a personal regard to the King of Prussia.

BRITAIN met with an inexpressible loss in the beginning of the year 1754, by the death of Mr Pelham. No person ever had a greater regard for his sovereign; or a more sincere affection for his country; or, as a minister, studied the  
true



true interest of the nation with more assiduous care; no man was ever more regreted by every person that truly loved the island of Great Britain.

History of THE war which began with France in Europe, in the year 1755, had commenced in America, in the year 1749, by some English traders, who had entered into traffic with the Indians, on the banks of the Ohio. The French, knowing the importance of that country, were desirous to prevent us from trading, or having any communication with those Indians: they threatened our traders with the confiscation of their goods, and

and imprisonment of their persons, if they did not retire, from what they called their master's country: many of the traders immediately withdrew, but several others knowing their just right, had more spirit, and continued their traffic.

THE Marquis De la Jonquier, at that time Governor of Canada, sent several detachments of troops to the Ohio, to put these threats in execution, which they did, by seizing some English traders, and building a fort on the river Niagara, to interrupt our trade on the Ohio.

THE Marquis De la Jonquier died, just as he was preparing to march a  
confi-

considerable body of troops to the Ohio; with design to continue their encroachments on that river. The Marquis Du Quene, successor to De la Jonquier, no sooner arrived at Quebec, than he intended to continue what his predecessor had begun. Mr Dinwiddy, Governor of Virginia, made complaints to the court of Great Britain; and laboured to rouse the Virginians into a vigorous opposition: the Virginians marched a body of troops, to the protection of their frontiers. The command was given to Colonel Washington, who began his march, and had a skirmish with the enemy, on the 28th of May, 1754, but found himself too weak, and was obliged to wait for re-



re-inforcements. The French were assisted by a considerable number of Indians, who had been long in the English alliance; and many of them were known to be of the six nations. On the surrender of our camp, they fell, at once, to pillaging the baggage and provisions; and shot some of the horses and cattle: against this conduct Colonel Washington remonstrated; but all his arguments made little impression on them. Thus the French remained masters of the field; the Indians were riveted in their defection; the frontiers of the colonies were exposed, through the ill timed parsimony of the provinces.

GENERAL BRADOCK arrived in Virginia in February, and soon after sent orders for all the governors to meet him there. It was agreed, that for the preservation of Oswego, and the reduction of Niagara, Shirley and Peperal's regiments should proceed to lake Ontari; on which lake, one or more armed vessels should be built, to command it. General Bradock attacked fort Du Quene, and general Johnson invested crown point. On the 9th of July, General Bradock was attacked on his march, by the French and Indians, and was defeated.

SIR PETER HALKET, and a son of General Shirley, and many other brave

brave officers lost their lives. By the death of the General, the command of the troops fell to Colonel Dunbar, who carried back the shattered remains of the army to fort Cumberland. The loss of this battle, taught the Indians to despise the English, who, they said, were unable to defend themselves, much less to defend them. An universal panic at that time seized on all our colonies.

THE state of Europe was different at this time from that of America, which was engaged in an unfortunate war; whilst England and France were then at peace. At last, the ministers were obliged to take notice of the preparations that



were then making in all the ports of France. The Duke of Mirepoix was employing the utmost of his abilities to prevent the just resentment of Great Britain against his nation, for the hostilities committed by the French in North America ; while he gave the most religious assurances, that his court was sincerely inclined to adjust finally, all the disputes subsisting between the two crowns, in the new world.

By some trifling preparations which they made at Calais and Dunkirk, they endeavoured to persuade us, that they intended an invasion of England. The nation was greatly alarmed, and a few fishing boats on  
the

the coast, with a camp in a maritime province of france, were found sufficient to frighten us into an immense expence, to guard against that danger which never came.

HIS majesty having formed a design of visiting his German dominions this year, embarked at Harwich, and landed safe at Helvoetsluys, in his way to Hanover.

HE appointed several noblemen, to be justices, for the administration of the government, during his absence, at the head of whom was his royal highness, the Duke of Cumberland. They ordered the Duke De Mirepoix, to leave the kingdom in twenty-

ty-four hours; he set out for France at four in the morning, for fear of the mob. On the sixteenth of September, his Majesty landed at Margate, and the same day he arrived at Kensington, being convoyed on his passage, by Lord Anson. In his Majesty's speech to the parliament, he mentioned two treaties, which he had concluded with the Empress of Russia, and the landgrave of Hesse Cassel, which occasioned a warm debate in the House of Lords. The Duke of Marlborough moved for an address of thanks, which was seconded by the Earl of Marchmont: many amendments were proposed, which occasioned much debate; the Duke of Marlborough, the Earl of March-



Marchmont, the Duke of Bedford, the Duke of Newcastle, the Lord Chancellor, and the Earl of Grenville, spoke for the motion; the Earl of Temple, the Earl of Pomfret, and the Earl of Halifax, spoke particularly against the treaties; but the motion was agreed to without a division.

SIR THOMAS ROBINSON resigned the seals, and was made keeper of the rolls, in the room of Lord Barrington, who was made secretary at war. Mr Fox, being removed from the war office, was made secretary of state. The Duke of Newcastle was made first lord commissioner of the treasury. Such  
were

was the state of affairs between Great Britain and France in Europe, when war was declared.

IN the East Indies, matters went much faster, and more prosperously. In the beginning of the year 1755, the pirate Tulagee Angria was conquered, and routed out at fort Geriah, by the English forces, under Colonel Clive. The ancestors of Angria were viceroys to the Great Mogul, and governed a fine country on the coast of Coramandel, they threw off their allegiance to the Mogul, but were afterwards reduced to obedience, by the South Raja, who imposed a tribute, on Angria, which was regularly paid for

for some years, till 1754, when Tulagee Angria refused to pay it; this provoked the south Raja, who, to enable himself to destroy his enemy, sent to the English at Bombay to assist him, to conquer Angria. Admiral Watson assisted at a council of war held at Bombay: the land forces were under the command of Colonel Clive. The Admiral attacked fort Geriah on the twelfth of February, and it surrendered on the thirteenth.

IN this manner ended this successful expedition against Angria, which was of infinite service to the East India company's affairs, as it rooted out a notorious pirate from this fortress, which



which was judged to be extremely well situated for the interest of the company, and might be very easily maintained. This was the first war-like expedition in the East Indies, during this war.

A FLEET of ten ships of the line, under Admiral Bing, was sent to the Mediterranean, to oppose Monsieur Galissoniere, who had sailed from Toulon, to attack Minorca. Admiral Bing arrived on the coast of Minorca, the nineteenth of April, he dispatched the Phoenix, Chesterfield, and Dolphin, to reconnoitre the harbour's mouth. Captain Harvey was to endeavour to let General Blakeny know that the fleet  
was

was come for his assistance: but the enemy's fleet appearing to the south east, and the wind coming strong off the land, obliged the Admiral to call those ships in, before they could get to the entrance of the harbour, to make the necessary observations; about five, the admiral formed his line, on which the enemy stood forwards to him, in a regular line; but tacked about seven o'clock, endeavouring to get to windward of the English fleet. In the night, Admiral Bing made the signal to engage. Rear Admiral West instantly bore down on those of the enemies ships which were against him, and received their fire three times, before he returned it, and he then soon obliged

bliged the two ships, which opposed him, successively to sheer off. The Admiral bore down upon the ship, stationed over against his own ship, for some little time; but the Intrepid having his fore topmast shot away, which, the Admiral said, obliged him and all his division to fall back. By this unaccountable management, the enemy's centre was left unattacked; and the rear Admiral's division quite uncovered; by which the French were enabled to bear down on Admiral West's division, with the rear of their fleet; but they declined coming to a close engagement: at last several ships that were opposed to West's division sheered off, and were endeavouring



vouring to destroy the rigging of the English ships at a distance, whilst Admiral Byng was lying considerably a-stern of his rear. Next morning the two fleets were out of sight of each other. Such was the event of this famous engagement, which occasioned the taking of Minorca; then almost without troops, and the fortifications in very bad order, and which afterwards obliged the most compassionate of sovereigns, to sign the death-warrant of Admiral Byng; who was condemned by a court martial, and afterwards shot at Portsmouth.

IN America, the affairs of the English were very bad, the forts of

Oswega and Ontario were taken by the French,

AND in the East Indies, affairs wore a worse appearance. The company, by the bad management of their affairs, lost their valuable settlement at Bengal. Alvedeikam, Nabob of Bengal, died in the beginning of May, 1756, his nephew, Saradjat Dollah, succeeded him. Saradjat proved to be a tyrant; his subjects conspired against him, and some of them being discovered, fled to the English settlement at Calcutta. The Nabob marched against that place with an army, and after making some demands which were enormous, laid siege to that place. The governor

nor, with the officer next in command, set sail, and left the garrison uncommanded; to take care of themselves. They being dispirited, soon surrendered, and were treated with the greatest cruelty: two hundred of them suffered in the black hole, which is a circumstance too shocking to mention.

IN Europe, the King of Prussia seeing a war inevitable, and that a passage through Saxony was necessary for his army; ordered Mr Maloaln his minister at Dresden, to demand it.

LORD STORMONT, the British minister, went along with the Count



de Salmont, one of the King of Poland's ministers, to Berlin, to answer this demand; he said, that, as the King was at peace with all the world, and under no engagement relative to the present object, with any of the powers actually at war, he hoped, his Prussian Majesty would content himself with a quick passage, and not forget the respect due to a sovereign, nor that deference which all the members of the Germanic body, reciprocally owe to each other.

His Prussian Majesty having prepared, with the utmost diligence, a powerful army; his situation at this critical conjuncture was alarming:

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the power of the house of Austria of itself was an overmatch for him ; he knew he had to cope with, besides, a vast army of Russians, who were on their march for Prussia ; add to these, the King of Poland, at the head of thirty thousand men ; nor was his Majesty without fears, from the part that France might take, in the situation which her new ally, the Empress Queen, then was in.

THE division under Prince Ferdinand of Brunswich, entered Leipzig, so impenetrable were the councils of his Prussian Majesty, that even Prince Ferdinand, when he set out on his march, did not know

what course he was to take farther than Groskugel; where he opened his instructions, and found he was to take possession of Leipzig.

His Majesty, the King of Prussia, was as secret in his march to Dresden. The King of Poland on the news of the irruption of the Prussians, left his capital, attended by his two sons, Prince Xavier and Prince Charles, and put himself at the head of his troops, encamped at Pirna, and was resolved to defend himself to the last. The Queen and the rest of the royal family remained in the city of Dresden, and were treated in the most polite manner by the King.



King of Prussia, when he took possession of that capital.

THE King sent an officer to the Queen, to demand the keys of the cabinets, the archives, and treasures of her husband; her Majesty unwillingly complied; he also required a certain casket, containing some papers, which he described to her. The Queen denied having any knowledge of such a casket. "Madam," replied the officer, pointing to a cabinet, "the casket the King my master demands, is in that cabinet." The Queen, in some confusion, assured him he was mistaken, for the cabinet contained no such papers; but the Prussian officer insisted on having

having it opened, and finding that the most peremptory demands would not be complied with by her polish Majesty, he broke it open himself, in her presence, and took out the very casket he had demanded, and which contained all the original conventions and letters which passed between the courts of Saxony, Vienna, and Peterburgh; his Prussian Majesty finding himself possessed of so invaluable a treasure, instantly published them, that all Europe might be convinced of the necessity there was for his beginning hostilities in his own defence.

In the mean time, the empress Queen found herself obliged in honour, to relieve her ally, the King  
of

of Poland; accordingly he ordered Marshal Brown to discharge the Saxons. His army was encamped at Budin, near the conflux of the Egra with the Elbe; and for executing these orders, he had the choice of three ways; one was, by attacking and defeating Marshal Keith's army; which was no easy task: the second, by marching thro' Berlin, and Teoplitz, to enter Saxony; which laid him under the necessity of exposing his flank to the Prussian army, and of being deprived of his magazines at Belin and Welzern: the third, by sending a detachment through Leutmeritz, and approaching the Saxons by the way of Bohmisch Leipe and Shandan.

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This last measure could not produce any thing decisive: his Prussian Majesty judged his presence was necessary in Bohemia; accordingly he left the camp at Setlitz, and the same day reached Marshal Keith's camp at Tonsdorf. Marshal Brown was the next day to pass the Egra: he now judged it was best to draw near the enemy. The battle of Lowoschutz was not decisive: if it had, his Prussian Majesty would have marched directly to Prague, to facilitate the conquest of Bohemia. That his Prussian Majesty gained the victory, is plain, by Marshal Brown's inability to relieve the Saxons. The King of Prussia, in this victory, found the happy effects of  
that.

that exquisite discipline, to which he had inured his soldiers: their fire, as well as artillery, was so extremely heavy, and unintermitting, that it was almost impossible for any troops to stand unbroken. Marshal Brown arrived at Lichtenstorf, near Shandau, and immediately acquainted the Saxons with his arrival. The Saxons were in a place, thro' which there was no passage: where it was impossible for them to act, and there they laboured under insurmountable difficulties. The King of Poland was ardent to make an attack, until his generals convinced him of the impossibility thereof, and seeing his army in a condition, that it could not force a passage by the sword

sword, and without all hopes of provisions, or succours; he permitted them to surrender themselves prisoners of war. The most of the Saxon soldiers entered into the service of the King of Prussia. The whole Saxon army consisted of sixteen thousand men: the soldiers were extremely robust, well looking young men, and had not suffered much from want of provisions, during the blockade of five weeks; but the cavalry was almost entirely ruined. Such was the end of the campaign in Germany: gloriously finished on the part of the King of Prussia. He discovered the unjust designs of his enemies; drove the King of Poland out of his hereditary dominions; took



took possession of them himself, making his whole army prisoners of war ; carried the war into countries belonging to the empress Queen, and gained a victory over her troops. These victories were gained by field Marshal Keith, a native of Scotland ; he was descended from one of its most ancient families, was brother to the Earl of Marshal, and was drawn into the rebellion in 1715, at the age of nineteen, and at the battle of Sherifmuir, behaved with great bravery and resolution ; at the suppression of the rebellion, he went into France, where he studied mathematics under Monsieur Maupertius : he made himself Master of the military part of Geometry. From

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Paris,

Paris, he set out on his travels into Italy, Spain, Portugal and Switzerland; on his return to that city, the Czar of Muscovy, who was then at Paris, invited him into his service, which Mr Keith refused; he was a volunteer in the French army at the storming of Vigo, in the year 1719, where he received a dangerous wound.

FROM Paris he went to the court of Madrid; where, by the interest of the Duke of Liria, he obtained a commission in the Irish brigade, then commanded by the Duke of Ormond: he accompanied the Duke of Liria, in his embassy from the court of Spain to Muscovy, which intro-

introduced him into the service of the Czarina, who gave him a commission of Brigadier General, and soon after, that of Lieutenant General: he was invested in the order of the the black eagle; in this quality he served under Count Munich against the Turks; commanding a body of eight thousand men, at the siege of Oczakow, with great reputation; but receiving a wound in the thigh, for the cure of which, he made a journey from Petersburgh to Paris: as soon as he was recovered, he came over to London, and was well received by his Britanic Majesty, who knew he was forced into the rebellion by his mother.



ON his return into Russia, peace reigned for some time in that empire ; but on a war breaking out between the Russians and Swedes, they came to the battle of Williamstrand, where the former got the victory, owing to the good conduct of Marshal Lacy, and General Keith: he afterwards commanded an army of thirty thousand men, near Peterburgh. At that time the amazing revolution in the Russian empire was brought about, which placed the Empress Elizabeth, daughter of Peter the Great, on the throne of Russia. Marshal Keith also commanded an army against the Swedes, in the war which took place soon after the revolution. On the conclusion of the

the peace with Sweden, the Empress sent him ambassador to Stockholm, and soon after created him Field Marshal in the Russian armies. Taking some disgust to the Russian service, whose pay is very small, he entered into the service of his Prussian Majesty ; who received him in the most gracious manner, made him Governor of Berlin, and Field Marshal in the Prussian armies ; enjoying a large revenue, and the most gracious treatment, from the King of Prussia. The first display of his abilities, in the service of his new master, was the invasion of Saxony with that monarch.

MEAN time, the British nation

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was

was engaged in an unsuccessful war against France. The advantages which the enemy had gained, were not of great consequence; bad success in the beginning, under such a government as subsists in England, is the necessary consequence of war. France, from the nature of her government, constantly keeps up a great force, both by sea and land. Her forces are therefore always ready to march against her enemies. In England the case is different; let a war be ever so necessary, the King can take no steps till they are debated in parliament, and when they are approved, the forces are to be raised; the blame of the consequences is frequently laid on the minister.



minister. The shameful neglect of Minorca, was chiefly laid on the Duke of Newcastle; altho' Byng, and the officers in the garrison at Gibraltar, justly shared, and were deservedly punished for it. His Majesty was obliged to make alterations in the ministry: the Duke of Devonshire was made first lord of the treasury: Henry Legge, Chancellor of the exchequer. Some time after, his Majesty appointed the right honourable William Pitt, to be secretary of state, in the room of Henry Fox, who resigned.

IN France, the winter was spent in the usual preparations for war; but every thing was suddenly stopped,  
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on the sixth of January, 1757, by one of the most desperate attempts recorded in history.

As the King was going from Trianon to Versailles, to visit Madame Victoire, about six in the evening, a man, who had concealed himself between the hind wheels of the Coach, rushed forwards with his hat on, made his way to the King's person, through the guards; one of which he shoved against the Dauphin, and struck his Majesty on the right side; of which he, however, only complained by saying, "That man has given me a violent blow, he must either be mad or drunk;" but perceiving that his hand was bloody,

bloody, he said, "I am wounded;  
"seize that fellow, but don't kill  
"him." His Majesty was carried  
to his apartment; the wound, which,  
from the first, was not thought dan-  
gerous, was given with a sharp  
pointed knife, glanced upwards be-  
tween the fourth and fifth rib, but  
was not of any considerable depth,  
and at the first dressing, it was judg-  
ed that the cure would be speedy.  
The day after the King had receiv-  
ed his wound, the Dauphin was  
charged with the administration.  
The wretch, Robert Francis Da-  
mien, was born at Artois, his bro-  
ther was taken into custody; his fa-  
ther was still living, and was in the  
eighty-fifth year of his age. The  
process



process against him was begun at Versailles: his father, wife, and daughter, were banished the kingdom for ever: as for himself, humanity will not permit me to recite the barbarous and shocking cruelties which were made use of at his execution, to torture a poor wretch, who appeared by his trial, to be mad.

THE preparations that were making by France, convinced the English ministry, that the war England was engaged in, would prove a continental one: they were drawing their troops together from all parts, into camps, on the frontiers of Flanders; which seemed by their situation,

tion, to contain armies destined to act in Germany. It was generally apprehended; that France would, early in the spring, march an army into the electorate of Hanover, to involve an innocent people in the horrors of war, just because their sovereign was King of England. His royal highness, the Duke of Cumberland, commanded the army sent to prevent this invasion. The French were busy in fitting out two fleets at Brest and Port L' Orient: the English minister had a superior fleet lying off Brest, under the command of Sir Edward Hawke; but this precaution did not hinder a French squadron from getting out of Brest, and another from Port L' Orient; the one convoyed

convoyed troops for the West, and the other set sail for the East Indies; where a much brighter success attended the British arms. Admiral Watson sailed from Madras, with three sail of the line, and some frigates, for Bengal; where, strengthening his force with recruits, he entered the Ganges, and after a short resistance, made himself master of Busbudgia, having landed Colonel Clive, with an intention to attack it by land: the conquest of this fort, opened a passage to Culcutta; the troops and sailors, at the sight of this place, were animated with revenge, and attacked it with so much bravery, that they became master of it the very day they approached it.

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In a few days after they burnt and destroyed the city of Hugley, which was a great hurt to the Nabob's army.

COLONEL CLIVE, with a detachment of sailors, to assist the land forces, attacked and gained a complete victory over the Nabob. The consequences of this battle were, that the Nabob made proposals of peace, to Colonel Clive, which were agreed to; by this treaty, the English East India Company were re-established in the possession of all their settlements and privileges. An immunity from all taxes was granted, and restitution promised, of all the company had suffered at

Calcutta. Admiral Watson and Colonel Clive having re-established the East India Company in their possessions, and things being quiet, consulted the most considerable of their body, with regard to the most proper measures to be put in execution against the Nabob, in order to secure safety to themselves; since the Nabob had shewn his bad intentions, by not executing the late treaty, on frivolous pretences. The Nabob was a tyrant, his subjects were all his enemies, and had experienced the violence and treachery of his temper: they were all discontented with his government, particularly the officers in his army, who had entered into a conspiracy against him, at the head

head of which, was Jaffier Ali Cawn, a man of great power and interest. No sooner were their designs ripe for execution, than they communicated them to the English government at Calcutta, desiring their assistance. They did not hesitate a moment, but entered into a treaty with Jaffier Ali Cawn, the English troops marched under Colonel Clive; they advanced up the river with a design to bring the Nabob's army to a battle: they effected this in a few days, and the victory was decided in favour of the English, the battle was no sooner over, than Jaffier Ali Cawn, openly declared himself in the ancient seat of the Nabob Muxadavit the capital of



the kingdom, and by the assistance of Colonel Clive, he placed himself on the ancient throne of the Nabob, and soon after put the Nabob to death.

THE King of Prussia, in the mean time, gained the battle of Prague, and afterwards lost the battle of Colin, which obliged him to raise the siege of Prague, and lost, by that means, the whole kingdom of Bohemia. The Prussians made themselves masters of Memel.

THE King of England was again obliged to change the ministry ; the party of the Duke of Newcastle and Mr Fox, who had so lately been obliged

bliged to quit their places, now reassumed them. Their chief characteristic was, the great fear they were constantly in, of the overgrown power of France, they thought to maintain the balance of power, by raising up enemies to France on the continent, with British subsidies; the late minister's scheme was different. They were equally of opinion, that the power of France ought to be curbed; but thought the only means of doing this, would be by our own naval power: a conduct, which the insular situation of their country dictated to them. In North America, our affairs had for some time, worn the same dismal appearance, as they had

done, from the beginning of the war; but the Earl of Loudon, having in the latter end of the year 1756, laid before the ministry, a plan for carrying on the war in that country, and which being approved of, his Lordship was named by his Majesty, to command there in chief: better success was expected for the future, especially as a large body of troops was sent over to re-enforce the army there. The plan Lord Loudon was desirous to execute, was the conquest of Cape Breton, and afterwards bringing Canada under subjection, by the conquest of Quebec.

AN army of the chief troops of France, consisting of eighty thousand



land men, commanded by Marshal D' Etrees, continued its rout towards the electorate of Hanover, to oppose the army of observation commanded by the Duke of Cumberland, which consisted of forty thousand Hanoverians and Hessians.

THE Duke of Cumberland threw all the obstacles in the way of Marshal D' Etrees that were possible; but they were overcome by the abilities of the French general; who, by the superiority of numbers, obliged the Duke to pass the Weser: he then laid all the neighbouring states and country under contributions. The landgrave of Hesse Cassel was the first that suffered; Minden  
and

and Gottingen received French gar-  
risons without opposition.

THE French general sent a re-  
quisition, to the regency of Hano-  
ver; demanding, that deputies  
should be sent to his head quarters,  
to treat about the contributions.  
The Duke of Cumberland detached  
Lieutenant General Zastrow with  
twelve thousand men, to seize the  
important pass of Stadoldendorf:  
but he came too late; the French  
being already in possession of it.  
Zastrow, by a forced march, rejoin-  
ed the Dukes army at Latford on  
the Weser: the French drove the  
Hanoverian parties from the village  
of Latford. The Duke perceiving  
that

that it was the intention of the enemy to attack him, drew up his army on the heights, between the Weser and the wood; with his right towards the river, and his left close to the wood; the village of Hustenbeck being on his front. A battle ensued, which it was said, the Duke gained. But as he did not perceive the confusion of the French army, he retreated to Hamelen, and afterwards retired to Hoya: where he encamped, but afterward moved to Verden.

THE Marshal D' Etrees resigned his command to the Duke De Richlieu, who advanced upon the Hanoverians. The Duke of Cumberland retreated



retreated towards Stade; and Bremen opened its gates to the conqueror: by his Royal Highness's retreating, after the battle of Hestenberg, into the dutchey of Bremen, he was cooped up, without a possibility of escaping from the French, unless there had been a fleet ready at Stade, to have embarked his army for England. The plan which he followed had very different consequences. Under the mediation of the King of Denmark, the remarkable convention of Closter-seven was signed; by which, thirty-eight thousand Hanoverians laid down their arms, and had quarters assigned them by the French general: the troops of Hesse, Brunswick and Saxe-

Saxe-gotha, were sent back to their respective countries. The French army having ended the campaign in Hanover; Marshal Richlieu marched towards the dominions of the King of Prussia. In the month of June, 1757, there happened an unexpected change in the English ministry, a coalition of parties was hardly hoped for, yet it was brought about; Mr Pitt was again restored to the office of secretary of state; the Duke of Newcastle was placed at the head of the treasury, and Mr Fox was appointed pay master of the forces.

A CAMP was formed in the isle of Wight; the French army in Hanover,

ver, from the signing of the convention of Closter-seven, had been guilty of a million of unheard of excesses, and had violated the convention almost in every article; the Duke De Richlieu, the commander in chief, (prompted by the favour of Madame Pompadour) was the author of this behaviour, so injurious to the honour of this country: he plundered the whole electorate of Hanover, with the most inflexible severity: he levied the most exorbitant contributions, and even that, did not exempt the unhappy hanoverians, from the insolent and brutal licentiousness of the French Soldiery. The capital of the electorate was the only place which escaped from  
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the universal rapine ; by the moderation of the Duke De Randan, its governor, who kept up the strictest discipline, and behaved with the utmost humanity : such instances as these ought to be transmitted to posterity, to the honour of those who performed them.

THE King of Great Britain resolved no longer to bear the indignities which the insolence of the enemy committed. Prince Ferdinand of Brunswick, with a small army, watched the motions of Marshal Richlieu ; perceiving his army without discipline, and secure, penetrated through the northern parts of the electorate, and, with his Prussian

troops, joined the army of Hanoverians and Hessians, who instantly resumed their arms, and began to act against the French, under Prince Ferdinand's command. The King published a memorial, containing the motives, which obliged his troops to take arms; setting forth, in the clearest light, how palpably the French had first broken every article of the convention of Closter-seven.

On the Prince's taking the command, Marshal Richlieu threatened to destroy the whole country with fire and sword, to which no reply was made. However, on the Prince's approach, the suburbs of Zell were set on fire;

fire; the bridge of the Aller burnt, and many houses reduced to ashes.

His serene highness having represented to Marshal Richlieu, the consequences of such proceedings; the Marshal pretended it was done by accident. The first operation of importance, was the siege of Harbours, they became masters of the town, but the garrison retired into the castle, which afterwards capitulated.

THE events of this year were remarkable; the King of Prussia had once more the happiness to see himself freed from all eminent dangers, which so lately sur-



rounded him : he now felt the effects of his councils, and his labours ; all his enemies were driven out of his dominions, defeated, broken, and fled, every where before him : himself in quiet possession of Selesia.

FORT LEWIS, on the river Senegal, was taken by a small squadron of English ships. The hereditary Prince of Brunswick, not twenty years of age, took Hoyer with one battalion of foot, and a squadron of dragoon. Prince Ferdinand, his uncle, laid siege to Minden ; the last place which remained in the possession of the French, in the electorate of Hanover : it surrendered

ed in nine days. The Hanoverian army was every where successful. After the reduction of Minden, the French army returned to Hamelon: but on the approach of the Hanoverians, evacuated it, leaving their magazines and their sick behind them; and did not stop till they came to Paderbourn. When the combined army arrived at Melle, the French retreated towards the Rhine, and in their march, were joined by the troops that had been at Embdon, at Cassel, and the Landgrave of Hesse Cassel; which they evacuated. During the march, they were closely pursued by the Prussian hussars and the Hanoverian hunters, who killed and made

prisoners, great numbers of their men; at last they passed the Rhine, only leaving a garrison at Wesel.

THE English failed in an expedition against the coast of France: the land forces were commanded by Sir John Mordaunt, and the navy by Sir Edward Hawke. Another attempt was made under the command of the Duke of Marlborough; Lord Anson and Sir Edward Hawke commanded the fleet, they landed in the bay of Canualle, in the neighbourhood of St Maloes; but this also was without effect. The third attempt was made against Cherburg, under the command of General Bligh, and the fleet by Commodore Howe; they landed



landed near Cherburg, where they destroyed the fortifications, Bafon, Mole, &c. they embarked and landed again in St Lunar's bay. But an attack on St Maloes, which was their intention, was found utterly impracticable. The Commodore finding the bay of St Lunar extremely dangerous for the ships, moved up the bay of St Cas. The Duke D' Auguillon, who commanded the French troops in Britainy, with an army of twelve battalions; six squadrons of regulars; two regiments of malitia, and a train of artillery, was advanced within six miles of the English army, who were ordered to embark; which they did with so little precaution, that they

the French army came up with them on the coast. The English had a thousand men killed, wounded, and taken prisoners; they lost a number of brave officers.

GENERAL ABERCROMBIE succeeded Lord Loudon, in the chief command of the troops in America; marched against Ticonderago: the enemy's advanced guard fled on his approach, deserted a logged camp, after burning their tents, &c. The country was all a wood, through which the English army continued their march; but found it impassable with any regularity, for such a body of men; the guides were unskilful; the troops were bewildered;

wildered; the columns were broken, and fell in upon one another.

LORD HOWE, at the head of the right column, being somewhat advanced, fell in with a party of French regulars, of about four hundred men, who had likewise lost themselves in their retreat from their advanced guards: a skirmish ensued, in which, the French party were defeated, with some loss. This advantage cost the English very dear. The gallant Lord Howe was the first man that fell. This brave young nobleman was an honour his country, his genius, courage and judgment displayed themselves in all his actions: his  
regiment



regiment was one of the best in America; owing chiefly to the care he took of their discipline. Commodore Howe succeeded him in his title and virtues. After the defeat at Ticonderago, Generals Amherst and Wolf, with Admiral Boscawen, took and destroyed Louisbourg, took, burnt, and blew up six ships of the line, and five frigates. The conquest of this valuable island was of the greatest advantage to the North American colonies; but its importance to Great Britain, in general, was still greater, as it was the only place where the French could catch and cure the fish which are found in such abundance in those seas.

SEVEN.

SEVEN thousand of the best troops of France were either killed, wounded, or taken prisoners at Crevelt, on the twenty-third of June, 1758. Duke Ferdinand followed the blow, by laying siege to Dusseldorp, which he took in ten days. The army of France received a new commander; the Marshal Contades.

DUKE FERDINAND resolved to transfer the seat of the war, from the Rhine to the Maese: thinking, that by carrying the war into the enemies country, he might draw the French from the Rhine. The Duke De Broglie had been sent by Marshal Contades, with a strong detachment,

to

to re-enforce the Prince of Soubise in Hesse.

PRINCE ISENBURY commanded seven thousand Hessians against him. The French, amounting to twelve thousand, attacked the Prince, and after a most obstinate fight, gained a victory. This was attended with very bad consequences; for it gave the French the possession of the Weser, and opened for them a road into Westphalia; where they might attack the re-enforcement of English troops, under the command of the Duke of Marlborough, who were marching to join Prince Ferdinand; in this situation the Prince had no option, except a victory over the French,



French, or to pass the Rhine; the former was extremely difficult, for the Marshal declined a combat: his serene highness determined to march back to the Rhine.

THE English failed in an attack on Martinico; but succeeded in taking Guadaloupe: the advantage gained in America, gave such a shock to the French trade, that it was not possible to retrieve those losses, by any efforts, in that part of the world: her great efforts were against Hanover, if she could have kept possession of that electorate until a peace; she doubted not of being able to conclude an advantageous one. The plan which France

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deter-

determined to pursue, was not confined to Germany: She resolved to invade Great Britain; for this end, immense preparations were made, in several ports; but all these great points could not be put in execution, without great funds. It was the misfortune of the French nation at this time, to be governed by a weak divided ministry, and a ravenous mistress, who fleeced the kingdom of immense sums every year. The destruction of their trade made money very scarce.

THE victory gained by Duke Ferdinand at Minden, obliged Marshal De Contades to retreat to Cassel, pursued by the allied army. In this

this swift pursuit, the hereditary Prince of Brunswick was always foremost, in harrassing the flying enemy. At the end of this glorious campaign, Duke Ferdinand was invested with the order of the garter. The Marquis of Granby being appointed plenipotentiary for that purpose. The ceremony was performed with all the magnificence that a camp would permit. Notwithstanding the taking of Quebec, the death of the brave Wolf, made it a dear purchase to the English, though the whole province of Canada was added to the taking of that impregnable fortress. Quebec was the capital of the French dominions in America; the only remains of so many thou-



land miles of territory, which the French possessed at the beginning of the war; the tract between Trois rivers, the lake Ontario and their possessions in Louisiana.

THE defeat of Monsieur Conflans and the French fleet in Quibern bay, by Sir Edward Hawke, finished this glorious year.

THE success of the English was equally great in the East Indies; Captain Richard Maitland took Surat: in the mean time, Colonel Clive continued his success against the French. That nation had set up a person in opposition to the Nabob, Jaffier Ali Cawn, whom the Colonel  
had

Had placed on the throne of Bengal; and they having assisted him with men and money, he laid siege to Patna. Colonel Clive being informed of the attempt, marched from Calcutta with great expedition, and obliged the pretender to retire. Admiral Pococke gained a victory over Monsieur d' Ache, though the French fleet was superior to the English.

FRANCE was so much drained of money at this period, that the King was under the necessity of sending his plate to the mint: his example was followed by some of the noblemen and clergy. In the beginning of summer, 1760, Monsieur Thurot

attempted an invasion of Scotland, and landed in the island of Illa, in Argyleshire, but found it was not in his power to make any attempt of consequence.

He failed to the bay of Carrick Fergus in Ireland: as the garrison of the castle was entirely unfurnished with powder, they were under the necessity of surrendering. Thurot threatened the town of Belfast; but the brave Commodore Elliot, with three ships, soon put an end to his threatenings and his life. Thurot was one of the bravest men that had appeared in France, since the beginning of the war.

30 N060

I COME



I COME now to mention an event, which filled the nation with grief. His most sacred Majesty, George the Second, died on the twenty-fifth of October, at his palace of Kensington, in a very sudden manner: his death being occasioned by the bursting of the right ventricle of his heart.

HE finished a long and happy reign, in the midst of a period, which abounded with great events. It is needless to say he was a good, a brave, a just and virtuous King: his many amiable qualities adorned the throne, on which he sat so many years, and which he left at a time, so glorious for himself and his subjects.

These

These particulars are too deeply imprinted on the hearts of a grateful people, to require an eulogium. He departed this life in the seventy-seventh year of his age, and thirty-fourth year of his reign.

He was succeeded in the imperial crown of these kingdoms by his grandson, George Prince of Wales, our present most gracious sovereign; who was proclaimed, with the usual ceremonies, under the title of George the third; whose reign would be delightful to describe; every word of such an history would appear a panegyrick on the worthiest and best of men; but as his Majesty is still alive, and  
long

long may that life continue, so much valued, and sincerely esteemed by his subjects; it would rather be too delicate to be written at this period of time. Let us look back on the former history of England, and reflect on the surprising difference; have we enjoyed, as we have done, for near a hundred years, such felicity under the reigning family? Compare their reigns with those of the Plantagenets, Tudors and Sturarts: under the Plantagenets, the disputes between the York and Lancaster factions, filled the land with blood, murder and Paracide. Despotism bore sway during the whole time of the Tudors. The prerogative of the crown, and the rights of the



the subject, kept us in perpetual misery, during the reign of the Stuarts. 'Tis true, in the time of King William and Queen Anne, England was in great glory. Let us look at the fields of Spain and Flanders, and confess, that the balance of power in Europe has cost England many useful lives, in quarrels little to the interest of Great Britain. Though the father and son, whose reigns we have reviewed, had a strong predilection for Hanover; let us remember, it was their native land, and wish their posterity may have the same predilection for England; And then we may justly say, that the Hanover succession has made Great Britain the island of felicity :

felicity: but let us beware of prosperity as an enemy to virtue. A full cup is difficult to carry. Patience, meekness and resignation, require trials to keep them in exercise. Frugality, temperance and self-denial are not easily practised in a season of luxury: but,

Him fortune cannot sink, nor  
much elate,  
Whose views extend beyond this  
mortal state,  
By age, when summon'd to resign  
his breath,  
Calm and serene, he sees approach-  
ing death,  
As the safe port, the peaceful silent  
shore,  
Where

Where he may rest, life's tedious voy-  
age o'er :

He, and he only is of death afraid,  
Whom his own conscience has a  
coward made ;

Whilst he who virtue's radiant  
course has run,

Descends like a serenely setting sun :  
His thoughts triumphant, heaven  
alone employs,

And hope anticipates his future joys.

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F I N I S.



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